

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALGIER 03306 101830Z

43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 OMB-01 /092 W

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P R 101740Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE ASHDC PRIORITY 3318

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMSIXTHFLT

FOSIF ROTA

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3.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, AG, MO, MR, SP, SS

SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA: NOTES ON NOVEMBER 9

1. SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO GOVERNMENTAL REACTION TO HASSAN'S STAND DOWN OF GREEN MARCH, OFFICIAL MEDIA CLAIM SPANISH WILL TURN SAHARA OVER TO UN. ALGERIANS MAKING MAJOR EFFORT BRING OULD DADDAH BACK INTO FOLD. F POLISARIO CLAIMS CONTROL OF 2/3 SAHARA. BOUMEDIENE CLAIMS US PRESSED SPAIN TO CEDE SAHARA TO MOROCCANS. OFFICIAL ALGERIAN NEWS SERVICE ATTACKS HASSAN AND BOURGUIBA WITH PARTICULAR BITTERNESS. END SUMMARY.

2. REACTION TO KING HASSAN'S NOV. 8 SPEECH: ALGERIAN
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PAGE 02 ALGIER 03306 101830Z

MEDIA NOV. 8-9 FEATURED PROMINENTLY KING HASSAN'S

NOV. 8 ANNOUNCEMENT THAT GREEN MARCH WOULD BE CALLED OFF. NO EDITORIAL COMMENT AS YET BUT ASH-SHAAB HEADLINE SAYS "MOROCCAN KING RETREATS." MEDIA NOTE THAT SPAIN HAS NOT REACTED OFFICIALLY TO MORE BUT, CITING INFORMED SOURCES IN MADRID, CLAIM THAT SPANISH WILL TURN OVER ADMINISTRATION OF SAHARA TO UN AND THAT LATEST SPANISH ENVOY TO HASSAN, MINISTER OF OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER ANTONIO CARRO MARTINEZ, HAD TAKEN TOUGH LINE IN AGADIR.

3. ALGERIAN/MAURITANIAN RELATIONS: FOLLOWING RETURN OF BOUMEDIENE'S ENVOY, REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL MEMBER COL. AHMED DRAIA, FROM NOUAKCHOTT NOV. 8, MEDIA ANNOUNCED THAT PRESIDENT OULD DADDAH WOULD VISIT ALGERIA NOV. 9 TO MEET WITH BOUMEDIENE. DRAIA HAD MET WITH OULD DADDAH FOR THREE HOURS NOV. 8, ACCORDING TO PRESS. NO NOV. 9 RADIO ANNOUNCED THAT BOUMEDIENE/OULD DADDAH MEETING TAKING PLACE IN COLOMB-BECHAR, WITH COLS. DRAIA AND YAHIAOUI (ALSO COUNCIL OF REVOLUTION MEMBER), AND MESSRS. HAMDANI AND AMIMOUR OF PRESIDENCY, IN ATTENDANCE.

4. F POLISARIO: CITING REUTERS, PRESS NOV. 9 CLAIMS F POLISARIO NOW IN CONTROL OF 2/3 OF SAHARA. ACCORDING TO STORY, SPANISH HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM EASTERN PART OF COLONY AND ARE NOW DEFENDING PERIMETER BOUNDED, FROM NORTH TO SOUTH, BY DAORA, SMARA AND VILLA CISNEROS.

5. ALGERIAN PERCEPTION OF US ROLE: NOV. 10-16 NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR CARRIES INTERVIEW OF BOUMEDIENE BY JEAN DANIEL IN WHICH DANIEL, WHO HAD RECEIVED EMISSARIES OF KING HASSAN, SOUGHT ALGERIAN OPINION ON SAHARAN PROBLEM. BOUMEDIENE REASSERTED ALGERIA'S OVERRIDING PREOCCUPATION WITH INTERNAL PROBLEMS BUT NOTED THAT, IF PRESSED, HIS COUNTRY WOULD BECOME ONCE MORE THE "BAD BOY" OF MAGHREB. HE ACCUSED US (AND FRENCH ALSO) OF "HAVING PUT GREAT PRSSURE ON SPANISH TO MAKE THEM CEDE SAHARA TO MOROCCANS." NOTING THAT WHAT HAPPENS IN MAGHREB HAS DIRECT BEARING ON MIDDLE EAST, HE SAID IT NOT IN INTEREST OF US, OR ITS FRIENDS IN EUROPE, TO INCREASE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 ALGIER 03306 101830Z

DIFFICULTIES FOR ALGERIANS.

6. ATTACKS ON HASSAN AND BOURGUIBA: OFFICIAL ALGERIE PRESSE SERVICE (APS) DELIVERED ITSELF OF PARTICULARLY BITTER ATTACKS ON HASSAN AND BOURGUIBA NOV. 8. HASSAN, APS SAID, PLAYING HIDE AND SEEK WITH HIS PEOPLE IN ORDER TO TURN THEIR ATTENTION FROM THEIR MISERABLE SITUATION. APS ADDED THAT AFTER SKHIRAT COUP ATTEMPT, HIS

MAJESTY (APS USED TITLE WITH DERISION) HAD SENT UNDESIRABLES FROM HIS ARMY TO GOLAN, AND HOPED TO USE SAHARA ISSUE TO PROP UP HIS SHAKY THRONE. MOROCCAN PEOPLE, PIECE CONCLUDED, ARE NOW DISCOVERING THAT THEY HAVE BEEN HOODWINKED BY HIS MAJESTY. TURNING TO TUNISIA, APS WONDERED HOW "SUPREME COMBATANT" COULD REPROACH ALGERIA, WHICH HAD GIVEN A MILLION AND A HALF LIVES IN PART TO FREE ITS PORTION OF SAHARA, FOR BECOMING HUNG UP ON SAHARAN SELF-DETERMINATION. DESPITE ALL ALGERIAN EFFORTS TO BUILD GOOD RELATIONS WITH TUNISIA, BOURGUIBA NONETHELESS ATTACKED ALGERIANS WITH RANCOR AND WITHOUT REALIZING THAT HIS COUNTRY COULD NOT BE PROTECTED FROM FIRES WHICH HE FUELING.

7. COMMENT: ALGERIAN EFFORT TO BRING OULD DADDAH BACK INTO FOLD MAY BE MAKING SOME HEADWAY. LAST TIME OULD DADDAH VISITED HERE WAS JUNE 11-12, A LONG TIME AGO IN PRESENT, FAST-MOVING SITUATION.

8. APART FROM REFERENCES TO AMERICAN MACHINATIONS VIS-A-VIS SAHARA IN RECENT EDITION OF FLN'S REVOLUTION AFRICAINE, BOUMEDIENE'S ATTACK IS FIRST WE HAVE RECEIVED ON SAHARA ISSUE. OFFICIAL NEWS STORIES HAVE CONFINED THEMSELVES TO REPORTING US DESIRE THAT SAHARA PROBLEM BE SETTLED IN UN CONTEXT. PARKER

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